Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-15 TRSE-00 ERDA-07 NRC-07 OES-07 H-02 NSC-05 /101 W -------113767 061438Z /46

R 061305Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1162
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
USMISSION NATO
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE

UNCLAS BONN 14496

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, MNUC, GW

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL GERMAN POLITICAL REACTION TO NEUTRON WARHEAD

REF: BONN 11920 DTG 201248Z JUL 77

- 1. IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE "FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE" ON SEPTEMBER 1, CDU/CSU DEFENSE SPOKESMAN WOERNER REITERATED HIS SUPPORT (REFTEL) OF THE DEPLOYMENT OF NEUTRON WARHEADS IN THE FRG.
- 2. WOERNER MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:
- -- NATO MUST EMPLOY TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS AGAINST AN ATTACK BY THE WARSAW PACT;
- -- IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF THE FRG THAT ATOMIC WEAPONS BE USED WHOSE EFFECT CAN BE MORE EASILY RESTRICTED TO MILITARY TARGETS WITH LIMITED DAMAGE TO THE UNCLASSIFIED

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CIVILIAN POPULATION. THE NEUTRON BOMB IS SUCH A WEAPON;

- -- BECAUSE OF ITS MORE LIMITED POTENTIAL FOR CAUSING DAMAGE TO THE CIVILIAN SECTOR, THE NEUTRON BOMB IS A PARTICULARLY CREDIBLE THREAT.
- 3. AS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, WOERNER WILL LEAD THE BUNDES-

TAG DEFENSE COMMITTEE DISCUSSION OF THE NEUTRON BOMB ON SEPTEMBER 7. A NUMBER OF FRG OFFICIALS AND NATO MILITARY FIGURES WILL GIVE TESTIMONY ON THE BOMB BEFORE THE CLOSED SESSION. THE ISSUE WILL, OF COURSE, FIGURE PROMINENTLY IN THE BUNDESTAG DEFENSE DEBATE ON SEPTEMBER 8.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED**

Concepts: CIVIL DEFENSE, WARHEADS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, NUCLEAR BOMBS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 06-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment:

Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN14496
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Format: TEL

Film Number: D770322-0052

From: BONN

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770996/aaaaddhm.tel

Line Count: 69 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 642b784d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION ACDA

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 BONN 11920

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 18-Aug-2004 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1383467 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ADDITIONAL GERMAN POLITICAL REACTION TO NEUTRON WARHEAD

TAGS: PARM, MNUC, GE

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/642b784d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009